

ILLINOIS WEATHER & CROPS



ILLINOIS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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CROPS

Spring fieldwork continued at a good pace last week across the northern half of the state but slowed in the southern half. Farmers continued to wait for warmer temperatures to plant. Moisture in the form of rain and snow hindered tillage progress in the southern districts. Farm activities last week included secondary tillage, seeding oats, applying anhydrous, dry fertilizers, herbicides and spreading manure. Equipment maintenance, livestock work, construction of conservation practices, signup for the feed grain program and certification of failed wheat acres continued last week. Fruit growers are concerned about the effect of the cold weather last week on the budding fruit trees. For the week ending April 8, there was an average of 3.75 days suitable for fieldwork.

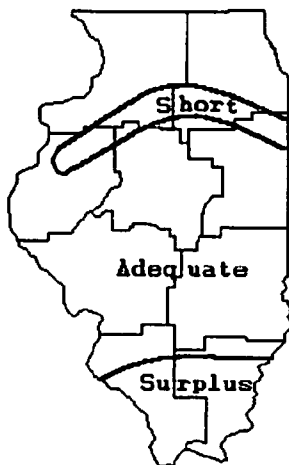
WINTER WHEAT condition, as of April 8, was reported as two percent excellent, 35 percent good, 48 percent fair, 12 percent poor, and three percent very poor.

OAT seeding continued to progress rapidly and as of April 10, 67 percent of the crop had been seeded statewide compared to four percent last year and the five year average of 36 percent.

ALFALFA condition was reported as 59 percent good and 41 percent fair as of April 8.

PASTURE condition was rated at 90 percent of normal on April 8.

SOIL MOISTURE supplies were five percent short, 78 percent adequate and 17 percent surplus as of April 8.



Soil Moisture Supply
April 8, 1994

ILLINOIS DISTRICT SUMMARY

District	:	Days Suitable For Fieldwork	:	Soil Moisture Percent		
				Short	Adequate	Surplus
	:	April 2 - 8	:	As of April 8		
Northwest	:	6.5	:	15	85	0
Northeast	:	6.0	:	0	100	0
West	:	4.5	:	10	85	5
Central	:	4.0	:	5	85	10
East	:	3.5	:	10	85	5
W Southwest	:	2.0	:	0	100	0
E Southeast	:	2.5	:	10	80	10
Southwest	:	1.5	:	0	35	65
Southeast	:	1.5	:	0	40	60
State	:	3.75	:	5	78	17

PRELIMINARY DISTRICT PRECIPITATION AVGS. AND DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL IN INCHES

	NW	NE	W	C	E	WSW	ESE	SW	SE	STATE
March	1.04	0.97	0.89	1.02	1.18	1.50	1.50	2.72	2.67	1.50
Departure	-1.56	-1.71	-2.18	-2.05	-1.81	-1.88	-2.24	-1.60	-2.49	-1.95

MARCH WEATHER SUMMARY

Temperatures were above normal and precipitation was below normal in Illinois during March.

The average temperature departure for the state was one degree above normal. The West Southwest District recorded the largest above normal variation, 2.2 degrees above normal.

Chicago, in the Northeast District, recorded the lowest temperature, 11 degrees on the 2nd. Peoria, in the Central District, recorded the highest temperature, 80 degrees on the 23rd.

The average precipitation for the state was 1.95 inches below normal.

The largest below normal precipitation was in the Southeast District, 2.49 inches below normal. Moline, in the Northwest District, reported this March to be the 5th driest on record.

WEATHER

A cold front moved through northern areas and settled over the south for much of the period. This resulted in seasonably cool temperatures while precipitation varied from little to none north to excessive south. The heavy precipitation was due to waves of instability which moved along the front bringing up some moisture from the Gulf of Mexico.

Temperatures averaged below normal. Mean readings of 40 to 50 were some 3 to 6 degrees shy of normal on average. Average maximums reached from the low 50's to near 60 while mean lows varied from near 30 north to the low 40's south.

Precipitation varied from none far north to more than a few inches south. Over the northern 1/4 only a few reports of a few hundredths or less were noted. Amounts increased quickly with totals approaching two inches from Springfield to Urbana. Heaviest amounts fell from south of a line from St. Louis to Terre Haute where 2 to 2.5 inch amounts were common. The most rainfall was noted at Iuka where more than 4 inches fell for the week.

Week ending 8 A.M. Monday, April 11, 1994

Location	Temperatures			Precipitation	Growing Degree Days	Soil Temperature 4" Bare	
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure			Maximum	Minimum
Elizabeth	53	27	-4	0.06	21	48	38
Rockford	56	33	0	0.00	28	51	35
Chicago	54	36	-1	0.01	25	N/A	N/A
Chi Botanical	51	34	0	0.03	24	46	40
Watseka	54	31	-4	0.87	25	48	40
Peru	56	30	-4	0.00	28	47	41
Moline	59	36	0	0.00	36	N/A	N/A
Peoria	57	38	-1	0.41	29	51	41
Monmouth	55	33	-5	0.32	29	50	40
Quincy	57	38	-3	1.48	31	N/A	N/A
Perry	56	35	-5	1.40	29	50	40
Springfield	56	39	-3	1.89	27	49	44
Urbana	54	35	-5	1.76	24	48	41
Windsor	56	36	-5	1.79	27	53	43
Terre Haute	55	37	-4	2.68	29	44	35
St. Louis	59	43	N/A	3.11	40	N/A	N/A
Belleville	59	40	-4	2.62	46	51	41
Brownstown	55	35	-6	2.22	28	49	40
Iuka	55	36	-7	4.33	29	50	41
Lawrenceville	56	35	-6	2.71	29	N/A	N/A
Vincennes	56	33	-6	2.91	30	51	38
Dixon Springs	59	41	-5	2.23	40	53	44
Paducah	61	45	-3	2.22	52	60	51
Olive Branch	58	40	-6	2.38	32	53	47
Carbondale	57	37	-7	2.32	35	N/A	N/A
C Girardeau	58	44	N/A	2.32	42	N/A	N/A

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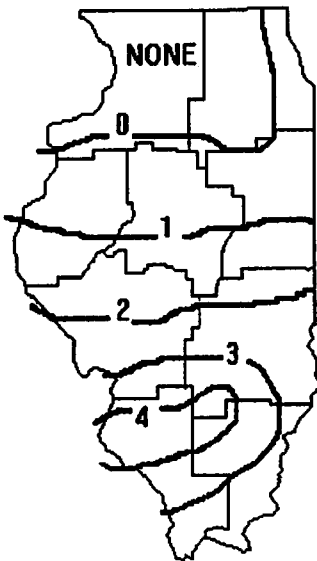
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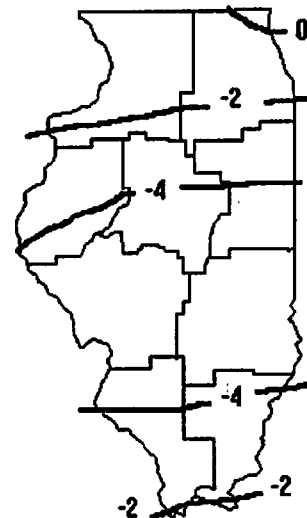
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Weather maps provided by Illinois State Water Survey
Champaign, Illinois 61820



Precipitation (inches)
April 5-11, 1994



Temperature Difference
from Average (deg. F)
April 5-11, 1994

CROP PROGRESS INFORMATION in this report is provided voluntarily by local area officials of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Extension Service, Soil Conservation Service, Farm Business Farm Management field staff, and agribusiness managers.

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